

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated November 13, 2006. Non-elected claims 11-12 have been canceled, without prejudice in view of the Restriction Requirement. New claims 13-14 have been added. Thus, claims 1-10 and 13-14 are now pending.

Claim 1 stands rejected under Section 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Uchizaki. This Section 102(b) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that *after the substrate with the emission sources thereon is mounted on the submount*, a step of cutting *through* the substrate between the emission sources is performed to form the plurality of laser elements. For example and without limitation, Figs. 4-5 and corresponding description in the instant application illustrate that after the substrate (21) with the emission sources (14) thereon is mounted on the submount (11), a step of cutting through the substrate (21) between the emission sources (14) is performed to form the plurality of laser elements (12, 13). The cited art fails to disclose or suggest the above italicized feature of amended claim 1.

Uchizaki fails to disclose or suggest the above italicized feature of claim 1. In particular, Uchizaki fails to disclose or suggest, *after the substrate with the emission sources thereon is mounted on the submount*, cutting *through* the substrate between the emission sources is performed to form the plurality of laser elements. In Figs. 16-19 of Uchizaki relied on by the Office Action, no cutting of GaAs substrate 210 is performed *after* the substrate 210 is mounted on submount 354. Moreover, Uchizaki also fails to disclose or suggest cutting “through” the substrate 210 at any point, thereby teaching directly away from the invention of claim 1. For at least these two reasons, amended claim 1 defines over Uchizaki and the rejection should be withdrawn.

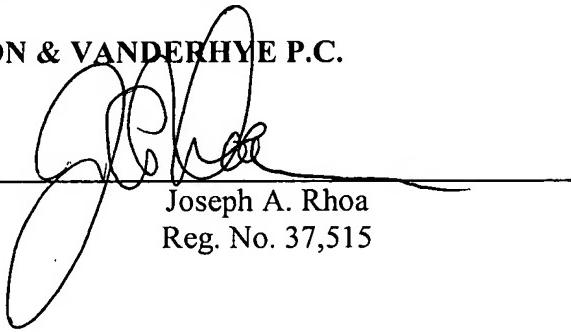
OKAZAKI
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It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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